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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/788,486

03/01/2004

Shigehiko Suzuki

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7590

08/11/2006

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

SUITE 700

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EXAMINER

MOFIZ, APU M

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2165

DATE MAILED: 08/11/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/788,486	SUZUKI ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Apu M. Mofiz	2165	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 March 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-40 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-40 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 01 March 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>03/01/04</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by BEA, Product Family Overview, July 02, 2001, pages 1-24 and hereinafter referred to as BEA.

As to claims 1,9,17,25 and 33, BEA teaches an information reference apparatus comprising: a reference information storage part storing predetermined reference information (i.e., a user profile on a Personalization server) (page 14); a reference range defining information storage part storing predetermined reference range defining information (i.e., in a property set for an individual user or a user group, where properties can be set to define a valid range e.g., to retrieve content based on the valid range from a content provider e.g., a database) (page 15; page 17); and a reference range defining part referring to the reference range defining information stored for a user by said reference range defining information storage part and defining a range of the reference information stored by said reference information storage part, in which range the reference information is available for the user to refer to (i.e., the reference ranges are defined and stored at the WebLogic Personalization Server) (pages 1-24).

As to claims 2, 10, 18, 26 and 34, BEA teaches a contribution receiving part receiving a contribution from a user and storing the contribution in said reference information storage part (i.e., a user can configure information in user profile, which allows the personalized server to retrieve personalized contents from content provider.) (pages 1-24).

As to claims 3, 11, 19, 27 and 35, BEA teaches an authenticating part allowing a user to refer to the reference information after an authentication of the user is normally finished (i.e., the information that distinguishes one user/person from another user/person in the personalized server) (pages 1-24).

As to claims 4, 12, 20, 28 and 36, BEA teaches a search range defining part responsive to a search request from a user's apparatus for referring to the reference range defining information from said reference range defining information storage part, and thereby defining a range of the reference information, in which range the reference information is available for the search (pages 1-24).

As to claims 5, 13, 21, 29 and 37, BEA teaches an URL management part registering an URL for each user, and being responsive to an URL reference request sent from a user's apparatus via a communication network for returning to the apparatus, information of URL previously registered for the relevant user (pages 1-24).

As to claims 6,14,22,30 and 38, BEA teaches that each user is given an attribute, and a user who makes a contribution is allowed to define a range of users who are allowed to refer to information included in the contribution, by designating the attribute thus given to the users (pages 1-24).

As to claims 7,15,23,31 and 39, BEA teaches a referred information managing part storing information for determining whether or not an item of the reference information has been already referred to by a specific user, and enabling said specific user to determine that the item of reference information has been already referred to by himself or herself with a use of the thus-stored information, upon receiving a reference request from the specific user (pages 1-24).

As to claims 8,16,24,32 and 40, BEA teaches that the reference range defining information comprises information designating, for each item of the reference information, a range of users who are allowed to refer thereto, a determination as to whether or not each item of the reference information is available for a particular user being made by determining whether or not an attribute set for the particular user is included in said range of users designated for said item of the reference information (pages 1-24).

Points of Contact

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Apu M. Mofiz whose telephone number is (571) 272-4080. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday – Thursday 8:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jeffrey Gaffin can be reached at (571) 272-4146. The fax numbers for the group is (571) 273-8300.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-9600.



Apu M. Mofiz
Primary Patent Examiner
Technology Center 2100

August 08, 2006